



# **UNDEREMPLOYED WORKERS**

AUSTRALIA

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- For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070 or Jon Havelock on Canberra 02 6252 7747.

## NOTES

ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION	This publication presents information about underemployed workers. The number of underemployed workers is an important component of underutilised labour resources in the economy, along with the number of unemployed and some persons with marginal attachment to the labour force. A range of information is presented on underemployed workers including the number of hours usually worked, number of preferred hours, steps taken to find work with more hours and difficulties finding work with more hours.
ABOUT THIS SURVEY	Statistics in this publication were obtained from the Underemployed Workers Survey conducted throughout Australia in September 2002 as a supplement to the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS). Data from the survey relate to all employed persons aged 15 years and over. Persons who worked less than 35 hours in the week prior to the survey (i.e. the reference week) and who would have preferred to work more hours, were asked about whether they were looking for work with more hours, whether they were available to start work with more hours and their experience in looking for work with more hours. Other information sought included the duration of the current period of insufficient work and the number of extra hours preferred.
ROUNDING	As estimates have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.
ABBREVIATIONS	<p>ABS Australian Bureau of Statistics ASCED Australian Standard Classification of Education ILO International Labour Organisation LFS Labour Force Survey RSE relative standard error SACC Standard Australian Classification of Countries SE standard error</p>

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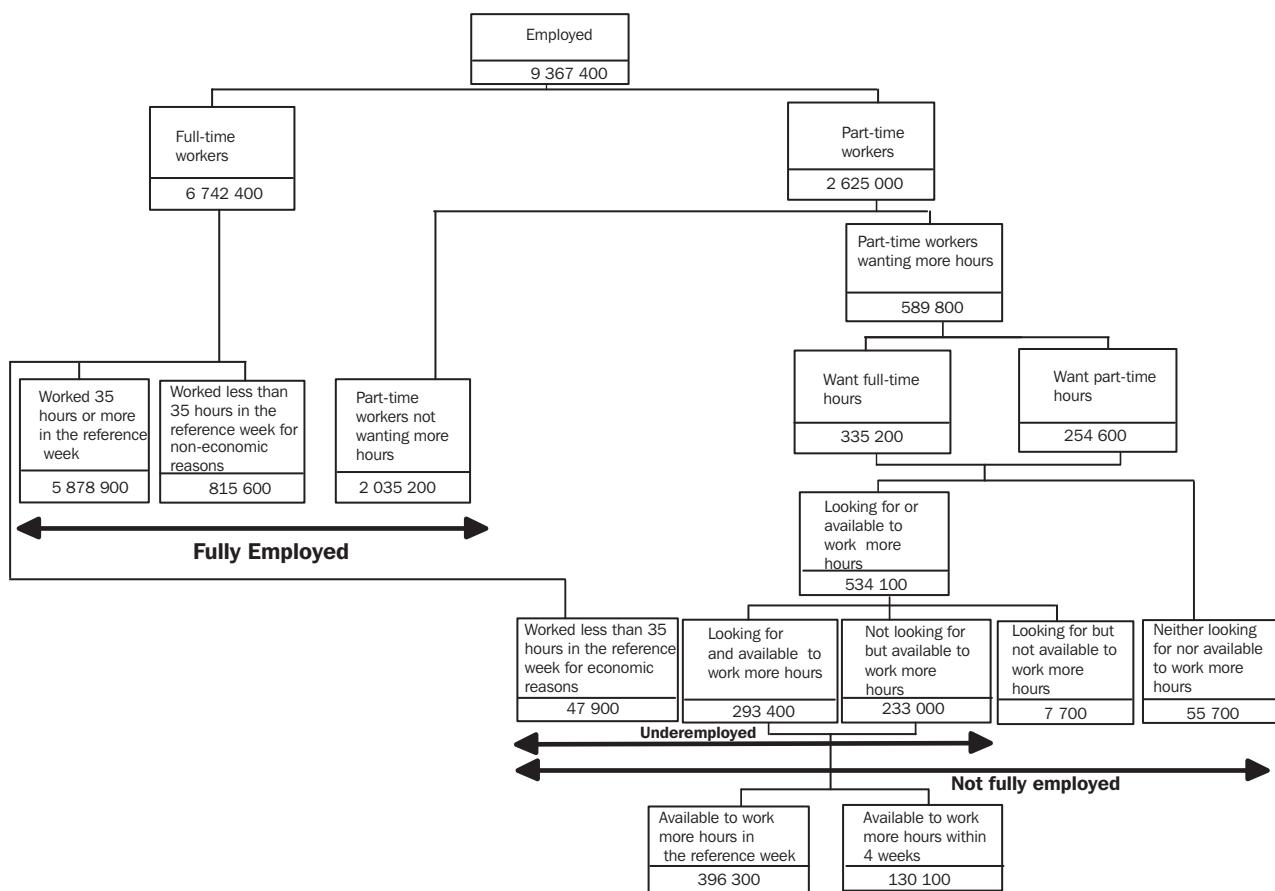
## CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

### CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

The ABS conceptual framework for underemployment separates employed persons into two mutually exclusive groups:

- workers who are fully employed
- workers who are not fully employed, comprising:
  - part-time workers who want to work more hours
  - full-time workers who worked part-time hours in the reference week for economic reasons (due to insufficient work being available or being stood down).

Fully employed workers comprise: employed persons who worked full time during the reference week (includes persons who usually work part time); employed persons who usually work full time but worked part time in the reference week for non-economic reasons (including illness or injury; leave, holiday or flexitime; and personal reasons) and part-time workers (usually work part time and did so in the reference week) who do not want additional hours of work.



The ABS underemployment framework classifies persons who are not fully employed into a number of groups based on whether they are looking for and/or available to start work with more hours. The framework separately identifies part-time workers wanting full-time hours and those wanting more part-time hours. These persons are further classified according to whether they had looked for extra work during the four weeks prior to the survey, and whether they were available to start extra work (either in the reference week or in the four weeks subsequent to the survey).

## CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK *continued*

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### CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK *continued*

Persons who usually work full time, but worked part time in the reference week for economic reasons, are separately identified in the underemployment framework. It is assumed that these people wanted to work full time in the reference week and would have been available to do so.

### DEFINITION OF UNDEREMPLOYMENT

The ABS definition of the underemployed is consistent with the International Labour Organisation (ILO) definition of time-related underemployment.

According to the ILO definition adopted in 1998, time-related underemployment exists when the hours of work of an employed person are below a threshold, and are insufficient in relation to an alternative employment situation in which the person is willing and available to engage. More specifically, persons in time-related underemployment comprise all employed persons (as defined) who satisfy the following three criteria:

- willingness to work additional hours — the ILO recommends that those who have actively sought to work additional hours should be distinguished from those who have not
- availability to work additional hours, within a specified subsequent period
- worked less than a threshold (determined according to national circumstances) relating to working time — the ABS underemployment framework uses a threshold (35 hours in the reference week) based on the boundary between full-time and part-time work.

### UNDEREMPLOYED WORKERS SURVEY

The Underemployed Workers Survey is the primary ABS data source on underemployment. It provides a wide range of information about underemployed workers, including information on the number of hours usually worked, number of preferred hours, steps taken to find work with more hours and difficulties finding work with more hours.

The LFS collects summary information on underemployed workers on a quarterly basis. It measures only those underemployed workers who were actively looking for more hours of work in the four weeks to the end of the reference week and were available to work more hours in the reference week. Availability to work more hours in the four weeks subsequent to the survey has not historically been measured in the LFS but from February 2003 this will be collected quarterly.

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

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### OVERVIEW

There were 9,367,400 employed persons aged 15 years and over in September 2002.

Of these:

- 589,800 (6%) usually worked part time and wanted to work more hours
- 526,400 (6%) usually worked part time and wanted more hours and were available to start work with more hours in the reference week, or within four weeks of interview
- 47,900 (0.5%) usually worked full time but worked part-time hours in the reference week due to economic reasons (being stood down, on short time, or having insufficient work). The majority of these were male (76%).

### PART-TIME WORKERS WHO WANT MORE HOURS

In September 2002, there were 2,625,000 part-time workers. Of these, 22% wanted to work more hours, a decrease of two percentage points since September 2001. The proportion of part-time workers wanting more hours was higher for males (30%) than for females (19%). A similar pattern occurred in previous years.

#### *Characteristics of part-time workers who want more hours*

In September 2002, there were 589,800 persons who worked part time and wanted to work more hours. The majority (57%) of these persons wanted to work full time, a decrease of 3 percentage points since September 2001. For males, the proportion who wanted to work full time (72%) has not changed since September 2001, whereas the proportion of females wanting to work full time has dropped by 5 percentage points (from 52% to 47%).

#### *Duration of insufficient work*

The median duration of the current period of insufficient work for persons who worked part time and wanted to work more hours was 26 weeks for both males and females. For males aged 45–54 years, the median duration of insufficient work was 43 weeks, compared with 50 weeks for females.

#### *Available to start work with more hours in the reference week*

There were 243,500 part-time workers looking for work with more hours who were available to start work with more hours in the reference week. This is the group of underemployed workers which most closely aligns with criteria applied in the ABS definition of unemployment, that is, actively looking for work, and available for work in the reference week. Females comprised just over half of these workers (56%).

Of those 589,800 persons working part time who wanted to work more hours, 77% (453,900) had looked for work with more hours in the four weeks prior to the survey, or were available to start work with more hours in the reference week. The remaining 23% (135,900 persons) were not looking for work with more hours in the four weeks prior to the survey and were not available in the reference week. Of these, 80,200 were available to start work with more hours within the next four weeks.

### LOOKING FOR OR AVAILABLE TO START WORK

Ninety-one per cent (534,100) of part-time workers wanting more hours were looking for or available to start work with more hours in the reference week or within four weeks. This proportion has remained steady since September 2000. Almost one-third (31%) of these usually work 10 hours or less.

#### *Extra hours wanted*

Of those part-time workers who were looking for or available to start work with more hours:

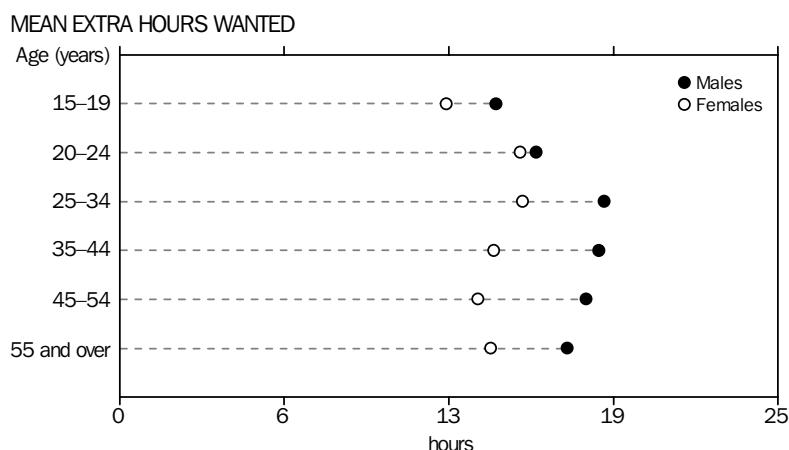
- 43% wanted to work 10–19 extra hours

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

### *Extra hours wanted continued*

- 27% wanted to work less than 10 extra hours each week
- 21% wanted to work 20–29 extra hours
- 9% wanted to work an additional 30 hours or more.

The mean preferred number of extra hours each week was 15.2 hours. Males wanted to work an average of 16.7 extra hours compared with an average of 14.2 extra hours for females. The mean preferred number of extra hours was highest for persons aged 25–34 years (16.5 hours) and lowest for persons aged 15–19 years (13.5 hours).



Of those persons who usually work 10 hours or less per week, just over half (55%) wanted up to 19 extra hours. Thirty-nine per cent of those who usually work 11–20 hours wanted 20–29 extra hours, and 40% wanted to work 10–19 extra hours per week. Nearly all those who usually work 21–34 hours (97%) wanted less than 20 extra hours.

### *Job search experience*

Of those part-time workers who wanted more hours, 301,100 (51%) had been looking for work with more hours.

The main reasons given for not having found work with additional hours were:

- no vacancies in line of work (21%)
- lacked necessary skills or education (11%)
- too many applicants for available jobs (9%)
- no vacancies at all (9%)
- considered too young or too old by employers (9%)
- unsuitable hours (8%).

The steps most frequently taken to find work with more hours were:

- contacted prospective employers (65%)
- looked in newspapers (57%)
- asked current employer for more work (52%)
- searched Internet sites (26%)
- contacted friends or relatives (24%)
- registered with Centrelink (23%)
- answered a newspaper advertisement for a job (21%).

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## EMPLOYED PERSONS

	SEPTEMBER 2000		SEPTEMBER 2001		SEPTEMBER 2002		
	.....		.....		.....		
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Persons
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
Employed persons							
Full-time workers	5 099.9	4 038.3	5 109.9	4 070.6	5 198.0	4 169.4	9 367.4
Worked 35 hours or more in the reference week	4 427.4	2 275.3	4 394.8	2 270.9	4 449.4	2 293.0	6 742.4
Worked less than 35 hours in the reference week	3 842.2	1 923.6	3 900.3	1 972.2	3 922.0	1 957.0	5 878.9
For non-economic reasons	585.2	351.7	494.5	298.7	527.4	336.1	863.5
For economic reasons	541.3	343.1	460.4	290.3	491.1	324.5	815.6
Part-time workers	43.9	8.6	34.1	8.4	36.3	11.6	47.9
Not wanting more hours	672.5	1 762.9	715.1	1 799.7	748.6	1 876.4	2 625.0
Want more hours	492.4	1 468.2	482.9	1 439.5	522.1	1 513.2	2 035.2
Want more part-time hours	180.1	294.8	232.2	360.2	226.6	363.2	589.8
Want full-time hours	45.0	135.8	63.4	173.5	63.5	191.1	254.6

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## UNDEREMPLOYED WORKERS

	SEPTEMBER 2000		SEPTEMBER 2001		SEPTEMBER 2002		
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Persons
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
Worked less than 35 hours in the reference week for economic reasons	43.9	8.6	34.1	8.4	36.3	11.6	47.9
Part-time workers wanting more hours who were available to start work with more hours							
Looking and available to start	111.2	142.1	126.3	167.7	124.9	168.5	293.4
Not looking and available to start	53.0	115.4	78.8	148.3	79.2	153.9	233.0
<b>Total underemployed</b>	<b>208.1</b>	<b>266.1</b>	<b>239.3</b>	<b>324.3</b>	<b>240.3</b>	<b>334.0</b>	<b>574.3</b>

	SEPTEMBER 2000		SEPTEMBER 2001		SEPTEMBER 2002		
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Persons
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
Had been looking for work with more hours							
Looking and available to start	113.0	146.8	129.2	175.0	128.4	172.6	301.1
Looking and available in the reference week	111.2	142.1	126.3	167.7	124.9	168.5	293.4
Looking and not available in the reference week but within four weeks	95.7	109.3	113.5	134.9	107.7	135.8	243.5
Looking and not available to start	15.5	32.7	12.9	32.8	17.1	32.7	49.8
Not looking but available to start	*1.8	4.7	*2.9	7.3	*3.6	*4.1	7.7
Had not been looking for work with more hours							
Not looking but available in the reference week	67.1	148.0	103.0	185.2	98.1	190.6	288.7
Not looking and not available in the reference week but within four weeks	53.0	115.4	78.8	148.3	79.2	153.9	233.0
Not looking and not available to start	39.1	75.4	61.5	101.4	54.7	98.1	152.8
Total	<b>180.1</b>	<b>294.8</b>	<b>232.2</b>	<b>360.2</b>	<b>226.6</b>	<b>363.2</b>	<b>589.8</b>

\* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution

PART-TIME WORKERS WHO WANT MORE HOURS, Looking or available in the reference week

.....

	LOOKING OR AVAILABLE IN THE REFERENCE WEEK				Not looking and not available in the reference week	Total		
	Looking and available	Looking and not available	Not looking and available	Total				
	'000	'000	'000	'000				
MALES								
<b>Age group (years)</b>								
15-19	21.9	*4.2	14.0	40.2	10.6	50.8		
20-24	24.0	*3.4	10.3	37.8	8.6	46.4		
25-34	20.7	*3.7	10.7	35.1	*3.8	38.8		
35-44	21.3	*3.7	7.3	32.2	8.5	40.8		
45-54	12.7	*2.8	6.9	22.3	7.7	30.0		
55 and over	7.1	*2.9	5.6	15.6	*4.2	19.7		
<b>Relationship in household</b>								
Family member	80.7	16.2	41.6	138.4	30.1	168.5		
Husband, wife or partner	37.5	7.4	17.8	62.7	15.8	78.5		
Lone parent	*1.6	**0.1	*0.9	*2.7	**0.5	*3.1		
Dependent student	10.9	*1.8	11.0	23.7	6.7	30.4		
Non-dependent child	27.0	6.8	9.7	43.5	7.1	50.6		
Other family person	*3.7	—	*2.2	5.9	—	5.9		
Non-family member	22.8	*4.3	9.9	36.9	9.5	46.4		
Relationship not determined	*4.3	**0.3	*3.3	7.8	*3.8	11.6		
<b>Level of highest educational attainment(a)(b)</b>								
Bachelor degree or higher	15.5	*1.9	6.0	23.4	4.6	28.0		
Advanced diploma/Diploma	5.6	*2.0	*2.7	10.3	*2.3	12.6		
Certificate	18.9	*1.8	8.2	29.0	7.2	36.2		
Year 12(c)	28.4	7.5	14.6	50.5	12.2	62.7		
Year 11(c)	10.4	*2.4	7.6	20.3	4.6	24.9		
Year 10 and below(c)	27.3	4.7	15.4	47.4	11.8	59.1		
<b>Status in employment</b>								
Employee	89.8	16.7	47.2	153.7	34.4	188.1		
Employer	—	—	**0.3	**0.3	**0.3	**0.6		
Own account worker	16.9	*4.0	6.8	27.6	8.2	35.8		
Contributing family worker	*1.0	—	**0.5	*1.5	**0.6	*2.1		
<b>Preferred total number of hours</b>								
Less than 35	24.0	4.9	18.9	47.7	15.8	63.5		
35 or more	83.8	15.8	35.9	135.5	27.6	163.0		
<b>Preferred number of extra hours</b>								
Less than 10	15.1	4.7	16.9	36.6	17.4	54.0		
10-19	44.1	8.4	20.4	72.8	15.6	88.5		
20-29	29.8	5.0	13.4	48.1	6.8	54.9		
30 or more	18.8	*2.6	*4.1	25.6	*3.6	29.2		
<b>Whether would prefer to change employer(d)</b>								
Would prefer to change employer	40.8	7.8	13.0	61.6	11.0	72.6		
Would prefer not to change employer	42.6	10.1	34.3	87.0	26.7	113.7		
No preference	24.3	*2.8	7.4	34.6	5.7	40.3		
<b>Whether would prefer to change occupation(e)</b>								
Would prefer to change occupation	49.2	9.7	18.6	77.5	14.4	92.0		
Would prefer not to change occupation	37.7	8.4	25.9	72.0	21.9	93.9		
No preference	20.9	*2.6	10.2	33.6	7.1	40.7		
<b>Total</b>	107.7	20.7	54.7	183.1	43.4	226.6		

\* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution

(b) Excludes no educational attainment and level not determined.

\*\* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(c) Includes persons who are currently undertaking school study.

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(d) Whether would prefer to change employer to work more hours.

(a) The levels of education are not necessarily in order from highest to lowest. See paragraphs 12-14 of the Explanatory Notes for further details.

(e) Whether would prefer to change occupation to work more hours.

PART-TIME WORKERS WHO WANT MORE HOURS, Looking or available in the reference week *continued*

	LOOKING OR AVAILABLE IN THE REFERENCE WEEK				Not looking and not available in the reference week	Total
	Looking and available	Looking and not available	Not looking and available	Total		
	'000	'000	'000	'000		
FEMALES						
Age group (years)						
15-19	27.4	6.7	16.2	50.3	13.0	63.3
20-24	24.6	5.7	12.4	42.7	11.7	54.5
25-34	26.8	7.9	15.6	50.3	18.3	68.6
35-44	33.7	7.9	28.4	70.0	22.1	92.1
45-54	19.0	7.8	20.0	46.7	21.6	68.3
55 and over	*4.3	*0.8	5.5	10.6	5.8	16.4
Relationship in household						
Family member	110.5	31.8	83.4	225.7	76.3	301.9
Husband, wife or partner	53.0	16.3	48.2	117.5	46.4	163.9
Lone parent	16.5	5.7	14.4	36.6	12.1	48.6
Dependent student	12.1	4.7	10.0	26.9	7.5	34.3
Non-dependent child	25.6	*3.9	8.4	37.9	9.1	47.1
Other family person	*3.3	*1.0	*2.4	6.8	*1.2	8.0
Non-family member	20.1	*4.2	9.3	33.7	12.4	46.1
Relationship not determined	5.2	*0.8	5.3	11.4	*3.8	15.2
Level of highest educational attainment(a)(b)						
Bachelor degree or higher	21.9	7.3	9.8	38.9	13.9	52.9
Advanced diploma/Diploma	11.6	*2.7	9.8	24.1	8.3	32.4
Certificate	13.2	5.8	9.4	28.5	10.6	39.1
Year 12(c)	36.5	9.0	25.9	71.5	20.0	91.5
Year 11(c)	13.5	*2.7	7.9	24.1	10.0	34.0
Year 10 and below(c)	37.6	8.2	33.6	79.4	29.1	108.5
Status in employment						
Employee	121.2	34.3	90.5	246.0	83.2	329.2
Employer	**0.2	—	*0.9	*1.1	*0.7	*1.8
Own account worker	13.0	*2.6	6.5	22.0	7.3	29.3
Contributing family worker	*1.4	—	**0.2	*1.6	*1.3	*2.9
Preferred total number of hours						
Less than 35	57.8	19.2	62.6	139.6	51.5	191.1
35 or more	78.0	17.6	35.5	131.1	41.0	172.2
Preferred number of extra hours						
Less than 10	25.6	12.3	34.1	71.9	45.6	117.5
10-19	57.7	18.1	47.6	123.4	34.6	158.0
20-29	37.9	*3.6	14.0	55.5	9.0	64.6
30 or more	14.6	*2.9	*2.4	19.9	*3.3	23.2
Whether would prefer to change employer(d)						
Would prefer to change employer	50.0	12.0	21.9	83.8	25.1	109.0
Would prefer not to change employer	56.1	19.0	61.3	136.4	55.3	191.7
No preference	29.7	5.9	14.9	50.5	12.1	62.5
Whether would prefer to change occupation(e)						
Would prefer to change occupation	64.0	16.1	33.4	113.6	31.0	144.6
Would prefer not to change occupation	46.0	13.8	51.2	110.9	51.9	162.8
No preference	25.8	6.9	13.5	46.2	9.6	55.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>135.8</b>	<b>36.8</b>	<b>98.1</b>	<b>270.7</b>	<b>92.5</b>	<b>363.2</b>

\* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution

(b) Excludes no educational attainment and level not determined.

\*\* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(c) Includes persons who are currently undertaking school study.

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(d) Whether would prefer to change employer to work more hours.

(a) The levels of education are not necessarily in order from highest to lowest. See paragraphs 12-14 of the Explanatory Notes for further details.

(e) Whether would prefer to change occupation to work more hours.

PART-TIME WORKERS WHO WANT MORE HOURS, Looking or available in the reference week *continued*

	LOOKING OR AVAILABLE IN THE REFERENCE WEEK				<i>Not looking and not available in the reference week</i>	<i>Total</i>		
	<i>Looking and available</i>	<i>Looking and not available</i>	<i>Not looking and available</i>	<i>Total</i>				
	'000	'000	'000	'000				
<b>PERSONS</b>								
<i>Age group (years)</i>								
15–19	49.3	10.9	30.2	90.5	23.6	114.1		
20–24	48.6	9.2	22.7	80.5	20.4	100.9		
25–34	47.5	11.5	26.3	85.4	22.1	107.5		
35–44	54.9	11.6	35.7	102.2	30.7	132.9		
45–54	31.7	10.5	26.9	69.1	29.2	98.3		
55 and over	11.4	*3.8	11.0	26.2	9.9	36.1		
<i>Relationship in household</i>								
Family member	191.2	47.9	125.0	364.1	106.4	470.5		
Husband, wife or partner	90.5	23.7	66.0	180.2	62.2	242.4		
Lone parent	18.1	5.8	15.3	39.2	12.5	51.8		
Dependent student	23.0	6.5	21.0	50.5	14.2	64.7		
Non-dependent child	52.5	10.8	18.2	81.5	16.2	97.7		
Other family person	7.1	*1.0	*4.6	12.7	*1.2	13.9		
Non-family member	42.9	8.5	19.2	70.5	21.9	92.4		
Relationship not determined	9.5	*1.1	8.6	19.2	7.6	26.8		
<i>Level of highest educational attainment(a)(b)</i>								
Bachelor degree or higher	37.4	9.2	15.7	62.3	18.5	80.9		
Advanced diploma/Diploma	17.2	4.7	12.5	34.4	10.6	45.0		
Certificate	32.1	7.6	17.7	57.4	17.8	75.2		
Year 12(c)	65.0	16.5	40.5	122.0	32.2	154.2		
Year 11(c)	23.9	5.1	15.5	44.4	14.6	59.0		
Year 10 and below(c)	64.9	12.9	49.0	126.8	40.8	167.7		
<i>Status in employment</i>								
Employee	211.1	51.0	137.7	399.8	117.5	517.3		
Employer	**0.2	—	*1.2	*1.3	*1.0	*2.4		
Own account worker	29.8	6.5	13.3	49.6	15.5	65.1		
Contributing family worker	*2.5	—	**0.7	*3.1	*1.9	5.0		
<i>Preferred total number of hours</i>								
Less than 35	81.8	24.1	81.4	187.3	67.3	254.6		
35 or more	161.8	33.4	71.4	266.6	68.6	335.2		
<i>Preferred number of extra hours</i>								
Less than 10	40.6	17.0	50.9	108.5	63.0	171.5		
10–19	101.8	26.4	68.0	196.2	50.2	246.4		
20–29	67.7	8.6	27.4	103.6	15.8	119.5		
30 or more	33.5	5.5	6.5	45.5	6.9	52.4		
<i>Whether would prefer to change employer(d)</i>								
Would prefer to change employer	90.8	19.8	34.8	145.4	36.1	181.6		
Would prefer not to change employer	98.7	29.1	95.7	223.4	82.0	305.5		
No preference	54.0	8.7	22.3	85.0	17.8	102.8		
<i>Whether would prefer to change occupation(e)</i>								
Would prefer to change occupation	113.2	25.9	52.1	191.2	45.4	236.6		
Would prefer not to change occupation	83.6	22.2	77.1	183.0	73.8	256.7		
No preference	46.7	9.4	23.7	79.7	16.7	96.5		
<b>Total</b>	<b>243.5</b>	<b>57.5</b>	<b>152.8</b>	<b>453.9</b>	<b>135.9</b>	<b>589.8</b>		

\* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution

(b) Excludes no educational attainment and level not determined.

\*\* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(c) Includes persons who are currently undertaking school study.

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(d) Whether would prefer to change employer to work more hours.

(a) The levels of education are not necessarily in order from highest to lowest. See paragraphs 12–14 of the Explanatory Notes for further details.

(e) Whether would prefer to change occupation to work more hours.

DURATION OF CURRENT PERIOD OF INSUFFICIENT WORK (WEEKS)						
	1-12 '000	13-51 '000	52 or more '000	Total '000	Mean duration weeks	Median duration weeks
MALES						
Age groups (years)						
15-19	23.0	18.7	9.2	50.8	29.6	17
20-24	21.9	13.2	11.3	46.4	37.7	16
25-34	14.4	12.6	11.8	38.8	51.2	26
35-44	9.3	11.8	19.7	40.8	66.1	40
45-54	8.8	6.8	14.4	30.0	80.2	43
55 and over	*2.5	6.0	11.3	19.7	100.1	*52
Relationship in household						
Family member	60.2	49.3	59.0	168.5	55.0	26
Husband, wife or partner	21.2	25.2	32.2	78.5	66.5	32
Lone parent	*1.5	**0.5	*1.1	*3.1	**57.3	**26
Dependent student	14.7	8.7	7.0	30.4	35.7	13
Non-dependent child	19.1	14.3	17.3	50.6	49.8	26
Other family person	*3.8	**0.6	*1.5	5.9	*44.9	*8
Non-family member	15.2	15.4	15.8	46.4	57.6	26
Relationship not determined	*4.4	*4.4	*2.8	11.6	*32.2	*20
Level of highest educational attainment(a)(b)						
Bachelor degree or higher	11.9	8.5	7.6	28.0	50.0	21
Advanced diploma/Diploma	*3.0	*2.9	6.7	12.6	*72.2	*52
Certificate	12.4	9.9	13.9	36.2	66.8	26
Year 12(c)	20.8	22.5	19.5	62.7	47.5	26
Year 11(c)	10.0	7.9	7.0	24.9	41.9	17
Year 10 and below(c)	21.1	16.8	21.3	59.1	57.6	26
Status in employment						
Employee	70.1	57.8	60.2	188.1	50.4	26
Employer	**0.3	**0.3	—	**0.6	**25.7	**43
Own account worker	8.4	11.0	16.3	35.8	75.2	32
Contributing family worker	*1.0	—	*1.1	*2.1	**59.7	**52
Preferred total number of hours						
Less than 35	23.7	20.4	19.4	63.5	52.1	24
35 or more	56.1	48.7	58.2	163.0	55.3	26
Preferred number of extra hours						
Less than 10	20.8	18.2	15.0	54.0	50.8	26
10-19	31.2	27.4	29.8	88.5	53.3	26
20-29	17.7	16.9	20.3	54.9	55.2	26
30 or more	10.1	6.6	12.5	29.2	62.5	32
Whether would prefer to change employer(d)						
Would prefer to change employer	29.8	19.9	22.9	72.6	48.8	26
Would prefer not to change employer	34.3	39.8	39.6	113.7	58.2	26
No preference	15.7	9.3	15.2	40.3	53.6	26
Whether would prefer to change occupation(e)						
Would prefer to change occupation	35.0	26.5	30.4	92.0	51.9	26
Would prefer not to change occupation	29.7	32.9	31.3	93.9	55.4	26
No preference	15.1	9.7	15.9	40.7	57.6	26
<b>Total</b>	<b>79.8</b>	<b>69.1</b>	<b>77.7</b>	<b>226.6</b>	<b>54.4</b>	<b>26</b>

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(b) Excludes no educational attainment and level not determined.

\*\* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(c) Includes persons who are currently undertaking school study.

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(d) Whether would prefer to change employer to work more hours.

(a) The levels of education are not necessarily in order from highest to lowest. See paragraphs 12-14 of the Explanatory Notes for further details.

(e) Whether would prefer to change occupation to work more hours.

DURATION OF CURRENT PERIOD OF INSUFFICIENT WORK (WEEKS)						
	1-12 '000	13-51 '000	52 or more '000	Total '000	Mean duration weeks	Median duration weeks
FEMALES						
Age groups (years)						
15-19	22.6	26.5	14.1	63.3	29.7	24
20-24	18.9	17.6	18.0	54.5	45.6	26
25-34	28.6	21.7	18.3	68.6	47.4	19
35-44	26.6	27.6	38.0	92.1	68.9	32
45-54	14.6	19.5	34.1	68.3	97.6	50
55 and over	*1.7	*4.5	10.2	16.4	149.5	*104
Relationship in household						
Family member	92.0	100.6	109.3	301.9	62.6	26
Husband, wife or partner	50.3	51.9	61.7	163.9	74.5	26
Lone parent	13.6	14.9	20.2	48.6	60.4	30
Dependent student	11.4	13.6	9.3	34.3	35.2	26
Non-dependent child	14.8	16.6	15.7	47.1	46.8	26
Other family person	*1.9	*3.6	*2.4	8.0	*42.5	*24
Non-family member	16.8	12.0	17.2	46.1	69.4	26
Relationship not determined	*4.3	4.7	6.2	15.2	65.2	*26
Level of highest educational attainment(a)(b)						
Bachelor degree or higher	16.7	18.5	17.7	52.9	57.4	26
Advanced diploma/Diploma	12.0	9.9	10.5	32.4	64.4	26
Certificate	11.6	11.3	16.2	39.1	71.9	26
Year 12(c)	24.9	35.9	30.7	91.5	54.6	26
Year 11(c)	11.5	10.7	11.8	34.0	55.5	26
Year 10 and below(c)	33.8	29.8	44.9	108.5	73.3	28
Status in employment						
Employee	101.2	106.5	121.5	329.2	63.4	26
Employer	*0.9	*0.7	**0.2	*1.8	**18.8	**12
Own account worker	10.2	8.4	10.7	29.3	62.7	26
Contributing family worker	*0.8	*1.7	**0.4	*2.9	**116.6	**13
Preferred total number of hours						
Less than 35	58.9	61.1	71.1	191.1	62.1	26
35 or more	54.2	56.3	61.6	172.2	65.2	26
Preferred number of extra hours						
Less than 10	38.3	35.8	43.4	117.5	62.0	26
10-19	45.7	54.9	57.4	158.0	66.2	30
20-29	20.1	19.8	24.6	64.6	62.2	26
30 or more	9.0	6.8	7.4	23.2	57.3	26
Whether would prefer to change employer(d)						
Would prefer to change employer	32.8	40.6	35.6	109.0	54.9	26
Would prefer not to change employer	58.0	59.9	73.8	191.7	66.0	28
No preference	22.3	16.9	23.3	62.5	71.4	26
Whether would prefer to change occupation(e)						
Would prefer to change occupation	40.3	51.2	53.2	144.6	63.2	26
Would prefer not to change occupation	56.5	46.8	59.5	162.8	63.8	26
No preference	16.3	19.4	20.1	55.8	63.9	30
<b>Total</b>	<b>113.1</b>	<b>117.4</b>	<b>132.7</b>	<b>363.2</b>	<b>63.6</b>	<b>26</b>

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\*\* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(c) Includes persons who are currently undertaking school study.

(a) The levels of education are not necessarily in order from highest to lowest. See paragraphs 12-14 of the Explanatory Notes for further details.

(d) Whether would prefer to change employer to work more hours.

(e) Whether would prefer to change occupation to work more hours.

DURATION OF CURRENT PERIOD OF INSUFFICIENT WORK (WEEKS)						
	1-12	13-51	52 or more	Total	Mean duration	Median duration
	'000	'000	'000	'000	weeks	weeks
PERSONS						
Age groups (years)						
15-19	45.6	45.2	23.3	114.1	29.7	21
20-24	40.8	30.8	29.3	100.9	42.0	21
25-34	43.0	34.4	30.1	107.5	48.8	20
35-44	35.9	39.4	57.7	132.9	68.1	35
45-54	23.4	26.3	48.6	98.3	92.3	50
55 and over	*4.2	10.5	21.4	36.1	122.5	60
Relationship in household						
Family member	152.2	149.9	168.4	470.5	59.9	26
Husband, wife or partner	71.5	77.1	93.9	242.4	71.9	26
Lone parent	15.1	15.4	21.3	51.8	60.2	30
Dependent student	26.1	22.3	16.3	64.7	35.4	20
Non-dependent child	33.9	30.9	32.9	97.7	48.4	26
Other family person	5.7	*4.3	*3.9	13.9	*43.5	*20
Non-family member	32.0	27.4	33.0	92.4	63.5	26
Relationship not determined	8.7	9.1	9.0	26.8	50.9	26
Level of highest educational attainment(a)(b)						
Bachelor degree or higher	28.6	27.0	25.3	80.9	54.9	26
Advanced diploma/Diploma	15.0	12.8	17.1	45.0	66.6	26
Certificate	24.0	21.2	30.1	75.2	69.4	26
Year 12(c)	45.7	58.4	50.1	154.2	51.7	26
Year 11(c)	21.4	18.7	18.9	59.0	49.8	26
Year 10 and below(c)	54.8	46.6	66.2	167.7	67.8	26
Status in employment						
Employee	171.3	164.3	181.7	517.3	58.7	26
Employer	*1.2	*1.0	**0.2	*2.4	**20.4	**13
Own account worker	18.6	19.4	27.0	65.1	69.6	26
Contributing family worker	*1.8	*1.7	*1.5	5.0	*92.9	**15
Preferred total number of hours						
Less than 35	82.6	81.4	90.5	254.6	59.6	26
35 or more	110.3	105.0	119.8	335.2	60.4	26
Preferred number of extra hours						
Less than 10	59.1	54.1	58.3	171.5	58.5	26
10-19	76.9	82.3	87.2	246.4	61.6	26
20-29	37.8	36.7	44.9	119.5	59.0	26
30 or more	19.1	13.4	19.9	52.4	60.2	26
Whether would prefer to change employer(d)						
Would prefer to change employer	62.6	60.5	58.5	181.6	52.4	26
Would prefer not to change employer	92.3	99.7	113.4	305.5	63.1	26
No preference	38.0	26.2	38.5	102.8	64.4	26
Whether would prefer to change occupation(e)						
Would prefer to change occupation	75.3	77.7	83.6	236.6	58.8	26
Would prefer not to change occupation	86.2	79.7	90.8	256.7	60.7	26
No preference	31.5	29.1	35.9	96.5	61.2	29
<b>Total</b>	<b>192.9</b>	<b>186.5</b>	<b>210.4</b>	<b>589.8</b>	<b>60.0</b>	<b>26</b>

\* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution

\*\* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) The levels of education are not necessarily in order from highest to lowest. See paragraphs 12-14 of the Explanatory Notes for further details.

(b) Excludes no educational attainment and level not determined.

(c) Includes persons who are currently undertaking school study.

(d) Whether would prefer to change employer to work more hours.

(e) Whether would prefer to change occupation to work more hours.

PART-TIME WORKERS LOOKING FOR OR AVAILABLE TO START WORK WITH MORE HOURS(a), Preferred number of extra hours

	PREFERRED NUMBER OF EXTRA HOURS					Mean preferred number of extra hours	
	Less than 10		10-19	20-29	30 or more		
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000		
MALES							
Age group (years)							
15-19	20.0	12.0	7.9	6.2	46.1	14.3	
20-24	9.9	21.9	7.6	*4.3	43.6	15.8	
25-34	*4.0	16.9	12.3	*4.3	37.5	18.4	
35-44	6.1	13.2	12.9	4.7	36.8	18.2	
45-54	*3.2	11.9	7.2	*3.3	25.5	17.7	
55 and over	*3.6	7.4	*3.1	*3.8	18.1	17.0	
Status in employment							
Employee	41.1	68.7	43.7	21.1	174.6	16.5	
Employer	—	**0.3	—	—	**0.3	**12.0	
Own account worker	5.6	13.0	7.1	5.1	30.9	17.5	
Contributing family worker	—	*1.3	**0.1	**0.4	*1.9	*19.9	
Usual number of hours worked							
1-5	8.0	5.7	*0.9	10.3	24.7	20.9	
6-10	9.3	*4.2	5.6	12.4	31.5	20.4	
11-15	5.0	6.9	16.4	*1.5	29.8	19.9	
16-20	*3.7	19.8	25.4	*1.6	50.6	18.1	
21-29	5.4	32.8	*2.2	—	40.4	13.0	
30-34	15.3	14.1	**0.4	*0.8	30.6	9.0	
Whether would move interstate if offered a suitable job							
Would move interstate	6.3	21.4	15.8	7.8	51.4	18.7	
Would not move interstate	35.0	51.7	29.4	15.7	131.8	16.0	
Might move interstate	*4.3	8.2	5.4	*2.2	20.0	16.6	
Don't know	*1.1	*2.1	**0.4	*0.8	*4.4	16.0	
Whether would move intrastate if offered a suitable job							
Would move intrastate	8.1	27.4	17.5	13.1	66.1	19.2	
Would not move intrastate	31.3	44.0	23.2	12.6	111.2	15.5	
Might move intrastate	6.2	9.6	9.8	*0.9	26.4	15.9	
Don't know	*1.2	*2.3	**0.4	—	*3.9	13.3	
<b>Total</b>	<b>46.7</b>	<b>83.4</b>	<b>50.9</b>	<b>26.6</b>	<b>207.6</b>	<b>16.7</b>	

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 — nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

\*\* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use  
 (a) Availability refers to in the reference week or within four weeks.

PART-TIME WORKERS LOOKING FOR OR AVAILABLE TO START WORK WITH MORE HOURS(a), Preferred number of extra hours *continued*

	PREFERRED NUMBER OF EXTRA HOURS					Mean preferred number of extra hours	
	Less than 10		10-19	20-29	30 or more		
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000		
FEMALES							
<i>Age group (years)</i>							
15-19	23.5	21.9	10.3	*2.9	58.6	12.8	
20-24	13.3	21.3	8.9	5.3	48.8	15.2	
25-34	16.9	26.8	11.8	6.0	61.5	15.3	
35-44	22.9	40.9	16.5	*3.1	83.5	14.2	
45-54	18.2	28.0	11.2	*2.6	60.0	13.6	
55 and over	*4.1	6.8	*2.6	**0.6	14.1	14.1	
<i>Status in employment</i>							
Employee	91.5	136.6	53.9	17.2	299.3	14.0	
Employer	—	**0.5	**0.4	**0.2	*1.1	*20.6	
Own account worker	7.2	8.2	6.3	*2.8	24.5	16.1	
Contributing family worker	**0.2	**0.4	*0.7	**0.3	*1.6	*20.0	
<i>Usual number of hours worked</i>							
1-5	9.8	17.2	9.2	6.6	42.8	17.7	
6-10	13.9	21.9	16.0	12.1	63.8	17.5	
11-15	15.5	19.6	17.5	*1.1	53.7	15.3	
16-20	15.1	33.1	18.0	**0.4	66.6	14.4	
21-29	22.3	44.7	**0.2	—	67.2	10.9	
30-34	22.3	9.2	**0.5	**0.3	32.4	7.9	
<i>Whether would move interstate if offered a suitable job</i>							
Would move interstate	9.7	23.4	12.3	6.3	51.7	16.7	
Would not move interstate	83.1	111.0	43.3	12.5	249.8	13.6	
Might move interstate	5.3	9.4	*4.3	*1.5	20.5	14.9	
Don't know	*0.9	*1.9	*1.5	**0.2	*4.4	16.0	
<i>Whether would move intrastate if offered a suitable job</i>							
Would move intrastate	12.9	32.2	17.1	7.7	69.9	16.5	
Would not move intrastate	76.6	99.8	35.4	10.8	222.6	13.3	
Might move intrastate	8.1	11.4	7.0	*2.0	28.5	15.7	
Don't know	*1.3	*2.4	*1.8	—	5.5	15.3	
<i>Total</i>	99.0	145.7	61.3	20.5	326.5	14.2	

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— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

\*\* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) Availability refers to in the reference week or within four weeks.

PART-TIME WORKERS LOOKING FOR OR AVAILABLE TO START WORK WITH MORE HOURS(a), Preferred number of extra hours *continued*

	PREFERRED NUMBER OF EXTRA HOURS					Mean preferred number of extra hours	
	Less than 10		10-19	20-29	30 or more		
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000		
PERSONS							
<b>Age group (years)</b>							
15-19	43.5	33.9	18.2	9.1	104.8	13.5	
20-24	23.2	43.2	16.5	9.5	92.4	15.5	
25-34	20.9	43.7	24.1	10.3	99.0	16.5	
35-44	28.9	54.2	29.4	7.8	120.3	15.4	
45-54	21.4	39.8	18.4	5.9	85.5	14.8	
55 and over	7.8	14.3	5.7	*4.4	32.2	15.8	
<b>Status in employment</b>							
Employee	132.7	205.4	97.6	38.3	473.9	14.9	
Employer	—	*0.8	**0.4	**0.2	*1.3	*18.8	
Own account worker	12.8	21.2	13.4	7.9	55.4	16.9	
Contributing family worker	**0.2	*1.8	*0.9	**0.7	*3.5	20.0	
<b>Usual number of hours worked</b>							
1-5	17.8	22.9	10.1	16.9	67.6	18.9	
6-10	23.2	26.0	21.6	24.5	95.4	18.5	
11-15	20.5	26.5	33.9	*2.6	83.5	16.9	
16-20	18.9	52.9	43.4	*2.0	117.1	16.0	
21-29	27.7	77.5	*2.4	—	107.6	11.7	
30-34	37.7	23.3	*0.9	*1.1	63.0	8.4	
<b>Whether would move interstate if offered a suitable job</b>							
Would move interstate	16.1	44.8	28.1	14.2	103.1	17.7	
Would not move interstate	118.1	162.7	72.6	28.2	381.7	14.4	
Might move interstate	9.6	17.6	9.6	*3.7	40.5	15.7	
Don't know	*2.0	*4.0	*1.9	*1.0	8.8	16.0	
<b>Whether would move intrastate if offered a suitable job</b>							
Would move intrastate	21.0	59.6	34.6	20.8	136.0	17.8	
Would not move intrastate	107.9	143.8	58.6	23.4	333.7	14.0	
Might move intrastate	14.3	21.0	16.8	*2.9	55.0	15.8	
Don't know	*2.5	4.7	*2.2	—	9.4	14.4	
<b>Total</b>	<b>145.7</b>	<b>229.1</b>	<b>112.2</b>	<b>47.1</b>	<b>534.1</b>	<b>15.2</b>	

\* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution  
— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

\*\* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use  
(a) Availability refers to in the reference week or within four weeks.

PART-TIME WORKERS LOOKING FOR OR AVAILABLE TO START WORK WITH MORE HOURS(a), Main difficulty in finding work

	NUMBER			MEAN PREFERRED NUMBER OF EXTRA HOURS		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
	'000	'000	'000	hours	hours	hours
<i>Main difficulty in finding work</i>						
Had been looking for work with more hours						
Own ill health or disability	*4.1	*2.7	6.8	16.6	*18.0	17.1
Considered too young or too old by employers	13.9	11.9	25.8	22.3	17.7	20.2
Unsuitable hours	7.4	17.2	24.5	13.5	12.8	13.0
Too far to travel/transport problems	4.6	9.9	14.5	19.4	17.7	18.2
Lacked necessary skills or education	12.7	19.8	32.5	18.1	17.9	18.0
Language difficulties	*1.0	*0.9	*1.9	*21.5	*23.1	*22.3
Insufficient work experience	6.9	11.1	17.9	23.6	16.6	19.3
No vacancies in line of work	30.0	33.6	63.6	19.5	15.6	17.4
Too many applicants for available jobs	12.3	15.9	28.2	18.8	17.6	18.1
No vacancies at all	10.5	15.6	26.1	15.6	15.9	15.8
Difficulties with ethnic background	**0.5	**0.2	*0.7	*23.0	**11.0	*19.7
Difficulties in finding child care	**0.5	*1.4	*1.9	*26.4	*15.2	*18.0
Other family responsibilities	**0.6	*3.3	*3.8	*11.5	18.3	17.3
Other difficulties	13.8	18.6	32.4	16.5	14.2	15.2
No difficulties reported	9.7	10.8	20.5	16.8	17.8	17.3
<i>Total</i>	<b>128.4</b>	<b>172.6</b>	<b>301.1</b>	<b>18.6</b>	<b>16.2</b>	<b>17.2</b>
Had not been looking for work with more hours	79.2	153.9	233.0	13.7	12.0	12.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>207.6</b>	<b>326.5</b>	<b>534.1</b>	<b>16.7</b>	<b>14.2</b>	<b>15.2</b>

\* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution

(a) Availability refers to in the reference week or within four weeks.

\*\* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

PART-TIME WORKERS LOOKING FOR OR AVAILABLE TO START WORK WITH MORE HOURS(a), All steps taken to find work(b)

	PREFERRED NUMBER OF EXTRA HOURS					Mean preferred number of extra hours
	Less than 10	10-19	20-29	30 or more	Total	
All steps taken to find work	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	hours
MALES						
Asked current employer for more work	8.4	28.0	20.0	10.0	66.5	18.5
Contacted prospective employers	11.7	33.3	25.8	17.8	88.6	19.7
Registered with Centrelink	*1.6	13.8	11.7	8.6	35.7	21.8
Checked Centrelink touchscreens	*0.8	8.7	7.7	*4.3	21.4	21.5
Checked factory noticeboards	**0.3	*1.4	*1.6	**0.6	*3.8	22.1
Contacted an employment agency	*2.4	7.1	8.5	5.1	23.0	21.2
Looked in newspapers	6.7	28.8	23.8	13.5	72.7	19.9
Searched Internet sites	4.9	14.5	9.1	8.2	36.7	19.9
Answered a newspaper advertisement for a job	*1.7	11.1	6.8	5.8	25.5	21.3
Advertised or tendered for work	*2.0	5.9	*2.8	*2.2	12.9	18.0
Contacted friends or relatives	*3.2	15.0	8.8	7.5	34.5	19.8
Other steps taken to find work	*2.1	*4.2	*3.6	*2.9	12.8	19.6
Had not been looking for work with more hours	27.0	30.9	16.1	5.1	79.2	13.7
FEMALES						
Asked current employer for more work	19.1	42.2	21.7	8.4	91.4	16.0
Contacted prospective employers	19.0	47.7	26.7	14.1	107.5	17.4
Registered with Centrelink	*2.4	14.5	12.6	5.2	34.7	19.4
Checked Centrelink touchscreens	**0.3	6.3	8.7	4.7	20.0	22.5
Checked factory noticeboards	—	*1.9	*1.6	*0.7	*4.2	19.5
Contacted an employment agency	*1.9	15.2	9.6	*4.0	30.7	18.6
Looked in newspapers	20.7	41.4	28.3	8.9	99.3	16.5
Searched Internet sites	8.7	14.3	13.3	4.7	40.9	17.1
Answered a newspaper advertisement for a job	5.9	14.4	12.3	*4.5	37.1	17.9
Advertised or tendered for work	*1.4	*2.7	*3.0	*2.3	9.4	21.3
Contacted friends or relatives	7.7	14.8	11.2	*3.1	36.8	16.8
Other steps taken to find work	*2.4	7.8	5.8	*1.5	17.4	17.4
Had not been looking for work with more hours	61.1	70.0	19.8	*3.0	153.9	12.0
PERSONS						
Asked current employer for more work	27.5	70.3	41.7	18.4	157.8	17.0
Contacted prospective employers	30.6	81.0	52.5	31.9	196.1	18.4
Registered with Centrelink	*4.0	28.3	24.3	13.9	70.4	20.6
Checked Centrelink touchscreens	*1.1	15.0	16.3	9.0	41.4	22.0
Checked factory noticeboards	**0.3	*3.3	*3.1	*1.3	8.0	20.7
Contacted an employment agency	*4.3	22.3	18.0	9.1	53.7	19.7
Looked in newspapers	27.4	70.2	52.1	22.4	172.1	18.0
Searched Internet sites	13.6	28.8	22.3	12.9	77.6	18.4
Answered a newspaper advertisement for a job	7.6	25.5	19.1	10.3	62.6	19.3
Advertised or tendered for work	*3.4	8.6	5.8	*4.5	22.3	19.4
Contacted friends or relatives	10.9	29.8	20.0	10.6	71.3	18.3
Other steps taken to find work	*4.5	12.0	9.5	*4.3	30.2	18.3
Had not been looking for work with more hours	88.1	100.9	36.0	8.1	233.0	12.6

\* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

(a) Availability refers to in the reference week or within four weeks.

\*\* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(b) Refers to all steps taken to find work during the four weeks prior to the survey, therefore persons may appear in more than one category.

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT(a)	ACT	Aust.
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
MALES									
<b>Population 1:</b> Employed persons	1 753.1	1 311.7	972.6	385.0	526.9	110.1	46.4	92.2	5 198.0
<b>Population 2:</b> Full-time workers	1 513.1	1 119.8	823.7	325.9	452.1	94.4	41.8	78.4	4 449.4
<b>Population 3:</b> Part-time workers	240.0	191.9	148.9	59.1	74.7	15.6	4.6	13.8	748.6
<b>Population 4:</b> Part-time workers who want more hours	75.6	51.7	47.3	16.4	23.5	6.4	1.7	4.0	226.6
<b>Population 5:</b> Part-time workers who want more hours who had been looking for work with more hours or were available to start work with more hours in the reference week or within four weeks	70.7	44.7	45.1	14.5	21.0	6.0	1.7	3.9	207.6
<b>Population 6:</b> Part-time workers who want more hours who were available to start work with more hours in the reference week or within four weeks	68.9	44.4	44.1	14.5	20.8	5.7	1.7	3.9	204.0
FEMALES									
<b>Population 1:</b> Employed persons	1 372.3	1 072.0	786.0	308.1	420.5	88.5	38.0	84.0	4 169.4
<b>Population 2:</b> Full-time workers	785.0	589.7	423.8	153.4	213.9	45.1	28.2	54.0	2 293.0
<b>Population 3:</b> Part-time workers	587.3	482.3	362.2	154.8	206.6	43.4	9.9	30.0	1 876.4
<b>Population 4:</b> Part-time workers who want more hours	115.7	86.2	73.9	32.3	41.1	9.7	*1.1	3.2	363.2
<b>Population 5:</b> Part-time workers who want more hours who had been looking for work with more hours or were available to start work with more hours in the reference week or within four weeks	107.1	76.2	67.0	27.6	36.2	8.5	*1.0	2.9	326.5
<b>Population 6:</b> Part-time workers who want more hours who were available to start work with more hours in the reference week or within four weeks	106.0	75.0	66.1	27.4	35.8	8.5	*1.0	2.8	322.4

\* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution

(a) Refers to mainly urban areas only. For more information, see paragraph 6 of the Explanatory Notes.

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT(a)	ACT	Aust.
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000

## PERSONS

**Population 1:**

Employed persons	3 125.4	2 383.7	1 758.7	693.2	947.4	198.5	84.4	176.2	9 367.4
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**Population 2:**

Full-time workers	2 298.1	1 709.5	1 247.5	479.3	666.1	139.6	70.0	132.4	6 742.4
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**Population 3:**

Part-time workers	827.3	674.2	511.2	213.9	281.3	59.0	14.5	43.8	2 625.0
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**Population 4:**

Part-time workers who want more hours	191.3	137.9	121.2	48.7	64.6	16.1	2.8	7.2	589.8
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**Population 5:**

Part-time workers who want more hours who had been looking for work with more hours or were available to start work with more hours in the reference week or within four weeks	177.8	120.9	112.1	42.2	57.2	14.6	2.6	6.7	534.1
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**Population 6:**

Part-time workers who want more hours who were available to start work with more hours in the reference week or within four weeks	174.9	119.3	110.2	42.0	56.6	14.1	2.6	6.6	526.4
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(a) Refers to mainly urban areas only. For more information, see paragraph 6 of the Explanatory Notes.

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

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### INTRODUCTION

**1** The statistics in this publication were compiled from data collected in the Underemployed Workers Survey conducted throughout Australia in September 2002 as a supplement to the monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS). Respondents to the LFS who were in scope of the supplementary survey were asked further questions.

**2** The publication *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6203.0) contains information about survey design, sample redesign, scope, coverage and population benchmarks relevant to the monthly LFS, which also apply to supplementary surveys. It also contains definitions of demographic and labour force characteristics, and information about telephone interviewing relevant to both the monthly LFS and supplementary surveys.

### CONCEPTS, SOURCES AND METHODS

**3** The conceptual framework used in Australia's LFS aligns closely with the standards and guidelines set out in the Resolutions of the International Conference of Labour Statisticians. Descriptions of the underlying concepts and structure of Australia's labour force statistics, and the sources and methods used in compiling these estimates, are presented in *Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods* (cat. no. 6102.0) which is also available on the ABS web site <<http://www.abs.gov.au>> (About Statistics—Concepts and Classifications).

### SCOPE

**4** The scope of the LFS is restricted to persons aged 15 years and over and excludes the following persons:

- members of the permanent defence forces
- certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from census and estimated populations
- overseas residents in Australia
- members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants).

**5** Students at boarding schools, patients in hospitals, residents of homes (e.g. retirement homes, homes for persons with disabilities) and inmates of prisons are excluded from all supplementary surveys.

**6** This supplementary survey was conducted in both urban and rural areas in all states and territories, but excluded approximately 80,000 persons living in remote and sparsely settled parts of Australia who would otherwise have been within the scope of the survey. The exclusion of these persons will have only a minor impact on any aggregate estimates that are produced for individual states and territories, except in the Northern Territory where such persons account for over 20% of the population.

### COVERAGE

**7** The estimates in this publication relate to persons covered by the survey in September 2002. In the LFS, coverage rules are applied which aim to ensure that each person is associated with only one dwelling and hence has only one chance of selection in the survey. See *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6203.0) for more details.

### RELIABILITY OF THE ESTIMATES

**8** Estimates in this publication are subject to sampling and non-sampling errors:

- Sampling error is the difference between the published estimate and the value that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey. For further information see the Technical Note.
- Non-sampling errors are inaccuracies that occur because of imperfections in reporting by respondents and interviewers, and errors made in coding and processing data. These inaccuracies may occur in any enumeration, whether it be a full count or a sample. Every effort is made to reduce the non-sampling error to a minimum by careful design of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers, and efficient processing procedures.

### SEASONAL FACTORS

**9** The estimates are based on information collected in the survey month and, due to seasonal factors, may not be representative of other months of the year.

## EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

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### CLASSIFICATIONS USED

**10** Country of birth data are classified according to the SACC—*Standard Australian Classification of Countries, 1998* (cat. no. 1269.0).

**11** Educational attainment data are classified according to ASCED—*Australian Standard Classification of Education* (cat. no. 1272.0).

### LEVEL OF HIGHEST EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

**12** Level of Highest Educational Attainment can be derived from information on Highest Year of School Completed and Level of Highest Non-school Qualification. The derivation process determines which of the 'non-school' or 'school' attainments will be regarded as the highest. Usually the higher ranking attainment will be self-evident, but in some cases some Secondary Education is regarded, for the purposes of obtaining a single measure, as higher than some Certificate level attainments.

**13** The following decision table is used to determine which of the responses to questions on Highest Year of School Completed (coded to ASCED Broad Level 6) and Level of Highest Non-school Qualification (coded to ASCED Broad Level 5) will be regarded as the highest. It is emphasised that this table was designed for the purpose of obtaining a single value for the output variable Level of Highest Educational Attainment and is not intended to convey any other ordinality.

**14** The decision table is also used to rank the information provided in a survey about the qualifications and attainments of a single individual. It does not represent any basis for comparison between differing qualifications. For example, a person whose Highest Year of School Completed was Year 12, and whose Level of Highest Non-school Qualification was a Certificate III, would have those responses crosschecked on the decision table and would as a result have their Level of Highest Educational Attainment output as Certificate III. However, if the same person answered 'Certificate' to the highest non-school qualification question, without offering any further detail, it would be crosschecked against Year 12 on the decision table as 'Certificate not further defined'. The output would then be 'Year 12'. The decision table, therefore, does not necessarily imply that one qualification is 'higher' than the other.

## EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

<b>AUSTRALIAN STANDARD LEVEL OF EDUCATION (ASCED) CODES</b>							
	<b>Certificate not further defined (500)</b>	<b>Certificate III or IV not further defined (510)</b>	<b>Certificate IV (511)</b>	<b>Certificate III (514)</b>	<b>Certificate I or II not further defined (520)</b>	<b>Certificate II (521)</b>	<b>Certificate I (524)</b>
<b>Secondary Education not further defined (600)</b>	Certificate not further defined	Certificate III or IV not further defined	Certificate IV	Certificate III	Certificate I or II not further defined	Certificate II	Certificate I
<b>Senior Secondary Education not further defined (610)</b>	Senior Secondary not further defined	Certificate III or IV not further defined	Certificate IV	Certificate III	Senior Secondary not further defined	Senior Secondary not further defined	Senior Secondary not further defined
<b>Year 12 (611)</b>	Year 12	Certificate III or IV not further defined	Certificate IV	Certificate III	Year 12	Year 12	Year 12
<b>Year 11 (613)</b>	Year 11	Certificate III or IV not further defined	Certificate IV	Certificate III	Year 11	Year 11	Year 11
<b>Junior Secondary Education not further defined (620)</b>	Certificate not further defined	Certificate III or IV not further defined	Certificate IV	Certificate III	Certificate I or II not further defined	Certificate II	Certificate I
<b>Year 10 (621)</b>	Year 10	Certificate III or IV not further defined	Certificate IV	Certificate III	Year 10	Certificate II	Year 10
<b>Year 9 (622)</b>	Certificate not further defined	Certificate III or IV not further defined	Certificate IV	Certificate III	Certificate I or II not further defined	Certificate II	Certificate I
<b>Year 8 (623)</b>	Certificate not further defined	Certificate III or IV not further defined	Certificate IV	Certificate III	Certificate I or II not further defined	Certificate II	Certificate I
<b>Year 7 (624)</b>	Certificate not further defined	Certificate III or IV not further defined	Certificate IV	Certificate III	Certificate I or II not further defined	Certificate II	Certificate I

### COMPARABILITY OF TIME SERIES

**15** Revisions are made to population benchmarks for the LFS after each five-yearly Census of Population and Housing. The last such revision was made in February 1999 to take account of the results of the 1996 Census of Population and Housing. Estimates from supplementary surveys conducted from and including February 1999 are therefore based on revised population benchmarks.

**16** Supplementary surveys are not always conducted on the full LFS sample. Since August 1994 the sample for supplementary surveys has been restricted to no more than seven-eighths of the LFS sample. Since it was introduced, this survey has been conducted on various proportional samples and therefore sampling errors associated with previous surveys may vary from sampling error for this survey.

**17** Prior to September 1994, part-time workers who wanted more hours of work were asked whether they were available to start work with more hours within the subsequent four weeks. From September 1994, an additional question was added to also determine their availability to start work with more hours during the reference week. This question was added to the survey so that estimates of underemployment could be more easily aligned with the then current International Labour Organisation (ILO) recommendations on underemployment.

**18** As part of the redesign in 2001 of the LFS questionnaire, persons who were on short-term unpaid leave initiated by the employer, are now classified as employed. This approach is consistent with ILO recommendations on formal job attachment. Analysis of data from the LFS shows that many of these persons usually worked part time, and that a number of these had a preference to work more hours. However, overall, these persons contribute only marginally to the change in part-time workers wanting more hours.

## EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

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### COMPARABILITY WITH LABOUR FORCE SURVEY STATISTICS

### COMPARABILITY WITH ILO DEFINITIONS

### PREVIOUS SURVEYS

### NEXT SURVEY

### ACKNOWLEDGMENT

### RELATED PUBLICATIONS

**19** Due to differences in the scope and sample size of this supplementary survey and that of the monthly LFS, the estimation procedure may lead to some small variations between labour force estimates from this survey and those from the LFS.

**20** Comparability of the concepts and definitions used in the Underemployed Workers Survey are discussed in the Conceptual Framework on page 3. More detailed discussion is included in *Labour Statistics: Concepts Sources and Methods, 2001* (cat. no. 6102.0), Chapter 5.

**21** The Underemployed Workers Survey was conducted in May 1985, 1988 and 1991. In 1994, the survey became an annual survey, collected each September. Results of previous surveys were published in: *Underemployed Workers, Australia* (cat. no. 6265.0); and the standard data service *Underemployed Workers, Australia* (cat. no. 6265.040.001) for 1994 and 1995.

**22** The ABS plans to conduct this survey again in September 2003.

**23** ABS publications draw extensively on information provided freely by individuals, businesses, governments and other organisations. Their continued cooperation is very much appreciated: without it, the wide range of statistics published by the ABS would not be available. Information received by the ABS is treated in strict confidence as required by the *Census and Statistics Act 1905*.

**24** ABS publications which may be of interest include:

*Job Search Experience, Australia*, cat. no. 6222.0

*Labour Force, Australia*, cat. no. 6203.0

*Labour Force Experience, Australia*, cat. no. 6206.0

*Labour Mobility, Australia*, cat. no. 6209.0

*Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods*, cat. no. 6102.0

*Persons Not in the Labour Force, Australia*, cat. no. 6220.0

*Working Arrangements, Australia*, cat. no. 6342.0

**25** Current publications and other products released by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products* (cat. no. 1101.0). The Catalogue is available from any ABS office or the ABS web site <<http://www.abs.gov.au>>. The ABS also issues a daily Release Advice on the web site which details products to be released in the week ahead.

## APPENDIX 1 POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEMS LIST

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### DATA AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

The ABS has a range of data available on request from the Underemployed Workers Survey. This section lists the data items and populations which relate to the survey. More detailed breakdowns of some data items may also be available on request.

The population(s) for a particular data item refers to the person in the survey to whom the data item relates. Where alternative output categories are available for the same data item, these are shown and the data item name is followed by a bracketed numeral (e.g. Country of birth (2)).

To obtain data available on request, or for more information about our customised data service, contact Jon Havelock on Canberra 02 6252 7747, or by facsimile on 02 6252 5172, or by email to <jj.havelock@abs.gov.au>.

*Population 1:* Employed persons.

*Population 2:* Full-time workers.

*Population 3:* Part-time workers.

*Population 4:* Part-time workers who want more hours.

*Population 5:* Part-time workers who want more hours who had been looking for work with more hours or were available to start work with more hours in the reference week or within four weeks.

*Population 6:* Part-time workers who want more hours who were available to start work with more hours in the reference week or within four weeks.

## APPENDIX 1 POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEMS LIST *continued*

<i>Data items</i>	<i>Populations</i>	<i>Data items</i>	<i>Populations</i>
<b>1 State or territory of usual residence</b>	All	<b>6 Relationship in household <i>cont.</i></b>	
New South Wales		Family member <i>cont.</i>	
Victoria		Lone parent	
Queensland		With dependants	
South Australia		Without dependants	
Western Australia		Dependent student	
Tasmania		Non-dependent child	
Northern Territory		Other family person	
Australian Capital Territory		Non-family member	
<b>2 Area of usual residence</b>	All	Lone person	
Capital city		Not living alone	
Balance of state/territory		Relationship not determined	
<b>3 Region of usual residence</b>	All	<b>7A Country of birth and period of arrival</b>	All
Standard labour force dissemination regions		Born in Australia	
<b>4 Sex</b>	All	Born overseas	
Males		Arrived before 1971	
Females		Arrived 1971 to 1980	
<b>5 Marital status</b>	All	Arrived 1981 to 1990	
Married		Arrived 1991 to 2000	
Not married		Arrived 2001 to survey date	
<b>6 Relationship in household</b>	All	<b>7B Country of birth (1)</b>	All
Family member		Born in Australia	
Husband, wife or partner		Born overseas	
With dependants		Born in main English-speaking countries	
Without dependants		Born in other countries	
		<b>7C Country of birth (2)</b>	All
		Born in Australia	
		Born overseas	
		Oceania and Antarctica	
		North-West Europe	
		Southern and Eastern Europe	
		North Africa and the Middle East	
		South-East Asia	
		North-East Asia	
		Southern and Central Asia	
		Americas	
		Sub-Saharan Africa	

## APPENDIX 1 POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEMS LIST *continued*

*continued*

<i>Data items</i>		<i>Populations</i>	<i>Data items</i>		<i>Populations</i>
<b>8</b>	<b>Age group (years)</b>	All	<b>12</b>	<b>Status of employment</b>	All
	(Collected in single years)			Employee	
	15–19			Employer	
	20–24			Own account worker	
	25–34			Contributing family worker	
	35–44		<b>13</b>	<b>Number of hours worked in the reference period</b>	4–6
	45–54			0–5	
	55–59			6–10	
	60–64			11–15	
	65 and over			16–20	
<b>9</b>	<b>Underemployment (1)</b>	1		21–29	
	Worked less than 35 hours in reference week for economic reasons			30–34	
	Part-time workers wanting more hours who were available to start work with more hours		<b>14</b>	<b>Type of insufficient work</b>	4–6
	Looking and available to start			Full-time	
	Not looking but available to start			Part-time	
<b>9A</b>	<b>Employed persons (2)</b>	1	<b>15</b>	<b>Duration of current period of insufficient work</b>	4–6
	Employed persons			1–3 weeks	
	Full-time workers			4–12 weeks	
	Worked 35 hours or more in the reference week			13–51 weeks	
	Worked less than 35 hours in the reference week			52 weeks or more	
	For non-economic reasons		<b>16</b>	<b>Level of highest educational attainment</b>	4–6
	For economic reasons			Postgraduate degree	
	Part-time workers			Graduate diploma/Graduate certificate	
	Not wanting more hours			Bachelor degree	
	Want more hours			Advanced diploma/Diploma	
	Want more part-time hours			Certificate III/IV	
	Want full-time hours			Certificate I/II	
<b>10</b>	<b>Full-time part-time workers</b>	1		Certificate not further defined	
	Full-time workers			Year 12	
	Part-time workers			Year 11	
<b>11</b>	<b>Whether fully employed</b>	1		Year 10 or below	
	Fully employed			Other education	
	Part-time workers who want more hours and persons who worked less than 35 hours in the reference week for economic reasons			Level not determined	

## APPENDIX 1 POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEMS LIST *continued*

*continued*

Data items	Populations	Data items	Populations
16	<b>Level of highest educational attainment</b>		<b>Part-time underemployment status</b>
<i>cont.</i>	No educational attainment/attendance	21	<i>cont.</i>
17	<b>Whether would move interstate if offered a suitable job</b>	4–6	Had not been looking for work with more hours
	Would move interstate		Not looking but available to start
	Would not move interstate		Not looking but available in the reference week
	Might move interstate		Not looking and not available in the reference week but within four weeks
	Don't know		Not looking and not available to start
18	<b>Whether would move intrastate if offered a suitable job</b>	4–6	
	Would move intrastate	22	<b>All steps taken to find work during the four weeks prior to the survey</b>
	Would not move intrastate		Asked current employer for more work
	Might move intrastate		Contacted prospective employers
	Don't know		Registered with Centrelink
19	<b>Whether would prefer to change occupation to work more hours</b>	4–6	
	Would prefer to change occupation		Checked Centrelink touchscreens
	Would prefer not to change occupation		Checked factory noticeboards
	No preference		Contacted an employment agency
20	<b>Whether would prefer to change employer to work more hours</b>	4–6	Looked in newspapers
	Would prefer to change employer		Searched Internet sites
	Would prefer not to change employer		Answered a newspaper advertisement for a job
	No preference		Advertised or tendered for work
21	<b>Part-time underemployment status</b>	4	Contacted friends or relatives
	Had been looking for work with more hours		Other steps taken to find work
	Looking and available to start		Had not been looking for work with more hours
	Looking and available in the reference week	23	<b>Whether registered with Centrelink</b>
	Looking and not available in the reference week but within four weeks		Registered with Centrelink for job search assistance
	Looking and not available to start		Not registered with Centrelink for job search assistance
			Had not been looking for work with more hours

## APPENDIX 1 POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEMS LIST *continued*

*continued*

<i>Data items</i>		<i>Populations</i>	<i>Data items</i>		<i>Populations</i>
<b>24</b>	<b>Preferred number of extra hours</b>	4–6	<b>25</b>	<b>Main difficulty in finding work <i>cont.</i></b>	
	Less than 10			Had been looking for work with more hours <i>cont.</i>	
	10–19			Other difficulties	
	20–29			No difficulties reported	
	30 or more			Had not been looking for work with more hours	
<b>25</b>	<b>Main difficulty in finding work</b>	4–6	<b>26</b>	<b>Usual number of hours worked</b>	4–6
	Had been looking for work with more hours			1–5	
	Own ill health or disability			6–10	
	Considered too young or too old by employers			11–15	
	Unsuitable hours			16–20	
	Too far to travel/transport problems			21–29	
	Lacked necessary skills or education			30–34	
	Language difficulties		<b>27</b>	<b>Preferred total number of hours</b>	4–6
	Insufficient work experience			Less than 30	
	No vacancies in line of work			30–34	
	Too many applicants for available jobs			35–39	
	No vacancies at all			40 or more	
	Difficulties with ethnic background				
	Difficulties in finding child care				
	Other family responsibilities				

## APPENDIX 2 SUPPLEMENTARY SURVEYS

### SUPPLEMENTARY SURVEYS

The Monthly Population Survey program collects data on particular aspects of the labour force. The following is an historical list of supplementary surveys to the monthly labour force surveys. Data are available in publication form, by subscription or on request. Additional data from these surveys is available on request and can be obtained by contacting the ABS.

	Cat. no.	Frequency	Latest issue
Career Experience, Australia	6254.0	Irregular	November 1998
Career Paths of Persons with Trade Qualifications, Australia	6243.0	Discontinued	Final issue 1993
Child Care, Australia	4402.0	Irregular	June 1999
Education and Work, Australia	6227.0	Annual	May 2002
Employee Earnings, Benefits, and Trade Union Membership, Australia	6310.0	Annual	August 2002
Employment Benefits, Australia	6334.0.40.001	Discontinued	Final issue 1994
Forms of Employment, Australia	6359.0	Irregular	November 2001
Job Search Experience, Australia(a)	6222.0	Annual	July 2002
Labour Force Experience, Australia	6206.0	Biennial	February 2001
Labour Force Status and Educational Attainment, Australia	6235.0	Discontinued	Final issue 1994
Labour Force Status and Other Characteristics of Families, Australia(b)	6224.0	Discontinued	Final issue 2000
Labour Force Status and Other Characteristics of Migrants, Australia	6250.0	Irregular	November 1999
Labour Mobility, Australia	6209.0	Biennial	February 2002
Locations of Work, Australia	6275.0	Irregular	June 2000
Multiple Jobholding, Australia(c)	6216.0	Irregular	August 1997
Participation in Education, Australia	6272.0	Discontinued	Final issue 1999
Persons Not in the Labour Force, Australia	6220.0	Annual	September 2002
Persons Who had Re-entered the Labour Force, Australia	6264.0.40.001	Discontinued	Final issue 1995
Persons Who Have Left the Labour Force, Australia	6267.0.40.001	Discontinued	Final issue 1994
Retirement and Retirement Intentions, Australia	6238.0	Irregular	November 1997
Retrenchment and Redundancy, Australia	6266.0	Irregular	July 2001
Successful and Unsuccessful Job Search Experience, Australia	6245.0	Discontinued	Final issue 2000
Superannuation, Australia	6319.0	Discontinued	Final issue 1995
Trade Union Members, Australia	6325.0	Discontinued	Final issue 1996
Underemployed Workers, Australia	6265.0	Annual	September 2002
Working Arrangements, Australia	6342.0	Irregular	November 2000
Work-Related Injuries, Australia	6324.0	Irregular	September 2000

(a) This product replaces the publications *Job Search Experience of Unemployed Persons, Australia* (cat. no. 6222.0) and *Successful and Unsuccessful Job Search Experience, Australia* (cat. no. 6245.0).

(b) Latest data available on request June 2002.  
 (c) Latest data available on request July 2001.

## TECHNICAL NOTE DATA QUALITY

### INTRODUCTION

**1** Since the estimates in this publication are based on information obtained from occupants of a sample of dwellings, they are subject to sampling variability. That is, they may differ from those estimates that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey. One measure of the likely difference is given by the standard error (SE), which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied by chance because only a sample of dwellings was included. There are about two chances in three (67%) that a sample estimate will differ by less than one SE from the number that would have been obtained if all dwellings had been included, and about 19 chances in 20 (95%) that the difference will be less than two SEs. Another measure of the likely difference is the relative standard error (RSE), which is obtained by expressing the SE as a percentage of the estimate.

**2** Due to space limitations, it is impractical to print the SE of each estimate in the publication. Instead, a table of SEs is provided to enable readers to determine the SE for an estimate from the size of that estimate (see table T1). The SE table is derived from a mathematical model, referred to as the 'SE model', which is created using data from a number of past Labour Force Surveys. It should be noted that the SE model only gives an approximate value for the SE for any particular estimate, since there is some minor variation between SEs for different estimates of the same size.

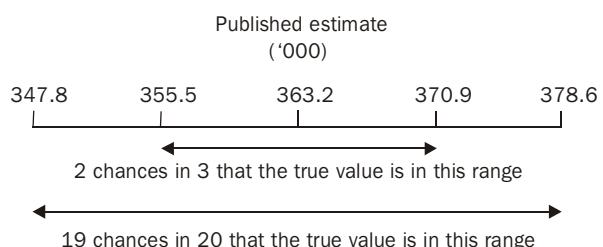
### CALCULATION OF STANDARD ERROR

**3** An example of the calculation and the use of SEs in relation to estimates of persons is as follows. Table 5 shows the estimated number of female workers who usually work part time and want more hours was 363,200. Since this estimate is between 300,000 and 500,000, table T1 shows that the SE for Australia will lie between 7,250 and 8,800 and can be approximated by interpolation using the following general formula:

*SE of estimate*

$$\begin{aligned} &= \text{lower SE} + \left( \left( \frac{\text{size of estimate} - \text{lower estimate}}{\text{upper estimate} - \text{lower estimate}} \right) \times (\text{upper SE} - \text{lower SE}) \right) \\ &= 7,250 + \left( \left( \frac{363,200 - 300,000}{500,000 - 300,000} \right) \times (8,800 - 7,250) \right) \\ &= 7,700 \text{ (rounded to the nearest 100)} \end{aligned}$$

**4** Therefore, there are about two chances in three that the value that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey will fall within the range 355,500 to 370,900 and about 19 chances in 20 that the value will fall within the range 347,800 to 378,600. This example is illustrated in the following diagram.



**5** In general, the size of the SE increases as the size of the estimate increases. Conversely, the RSE decreases as the size of the estimate increases. Very small estimates are thus subject to such high RSEs that their value for most practical purposes is unreliable. In the tables in this publication, only estimates with RSEs of 25% or less are considered reliable for most purposes. Estimates with RSEs greater than 25% but less than or equal to 50% are preceded by an asterisk (e.g. \*3.4) to indicate they are subject to high SEs and should be used with caution. Estimates with RSEs of greater than 50%, preceded by a double asterisk (e.g. \*\*0.3), are considered too unreliable for general use and should only be used to aggregate with other estimates to provide derived estimates with RSEs of less than 25%.

## TECHNICAL NOTE DATA QUALITY *continued*

### MEANS AND MEDIAN

**6** The RSEs of estimates of mean duration of insufficient work, median duration of insufficient work and mean preferred number of extra hours are obtained by first finding the RSE of the estimate of the total number of persons contributing to the mean or median (see table T1) and then multiplying the resulting number by the following factors:

- mean duration of insufficient work: 1.7
- median duration of insufficient work: 2.1
- mean preferred number of extra hours: 0.8.

**7** The following is an example of the calculation of SEs where the use of a factor is required. Table 5 shows that the estimated number of male workers who usually work part time and want more hours was 226,600 with a median duration of insufficient work of 26 weeks. The SE of 226,600 can be calculated from table T1 (by interpolation) as 6,500. To convert this to a RSE we express the SE as a percentage of the estimate or  $6,500/226,600 = 2.9\%$ . The RSE of the estimate of median duration of insufficient work is calculated by multiplying this number (2.9%) by the appropriate factor shown in the previous paragraph (in this case 2.1):  $2.9 \times 2.1 = 6.1\%$ . The SE of this estimate of median duration of insufficient work is therefore 6.1% of 26, i.e. about 2 (rounded to the nearest whole week). Therefore, there are two chances in three that the median duration of insufficient work for males that would have been obtained if all dwellings had been included in the survey would have been within the range 24–28 weeks, and about 19 chances in 20 that it would have been within the range 22–30 weeks.

**8** Estimates of means and medians produced from population estimates smaller than the values provided in table T2 have RSEs larger than 25% and should be used with caution. Table T2 also indicates the size of population estimates that would produce means and medians with RSEs greater than 50%, which are considered too unreliable for general use.

**9** An example of an estimate with a RSE between 25% and 50% is in table 5. The median duration of insufficient work for males with a Advanced diploma/Diploma, is 52 weeks and the number of persons contributing to the estimate is 12,600. Table T2 shows the level at which estimates of median duration have a RSE of 25% is 21,500. Therefore, the estimate of median duration has a high RSE and is shown in table 5 preceded with an asterisk (i.e. \*52).

### PROPORTIONS AND PERCENTAGES

**10** Proportions and percentages formed from the ratio of two estimates are also subject to sampling errors. The size of the error depends on the accuracy of both the numerator and the denominator. A formula to approximate the RSE of a proportion is given below. This formula is only valid when x is a subset of y.

$$RSE\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) = \sqrt{[RSE(x)]^2 - [RSE(y)]^2}$$

**11** Considering the example from paragraph 3, of the 363,200 females who usually work part time and want more hours, 132,700 or 37.0% had insufficient work for a year or more. The SE of 132,700 may be calculated by interpolation as 5,100. To convert this to a RSE we express the SE as a percentage of the estimate, or  $5,100/132,700 = 3.8\%$ . The SE for 363,200 was calculated previously as 7,700, which converted to a RSE is  $7,700/363,200 = 2.1\%$ . Applying the above formula, the RSE of the proportion is:

$$RSE = \sqrt{(3.8)^2 - (2.1)^2} = 3.2\%$$

**12** Therefore, the SE for the proportion of females who have a current period of insufficient work of one year or more is 1.2 percentage points ( $= (37.0/100) \times 3.2\%$ ). Therefore, there are about two chances in three that the proportion of females who have a current period of insufficient work of one year or more was between 35.8% and 38.2% and 19 chances in 20 that the proportion is within the range 34.6% to 39.4%.

## TECHNICAL NOTE DATA QUALITY *continued*

### DIFFERENCES

**13** Published estimates may also be used to calculate the difference between two survey estimates (of numbers or percentages). Such an estimate is subject to sampling error. The sampling error of the difference between two estimates depends on their SEs and the relationship (correlation) between them. An approximate SE of the difference between two estimates ( $x-y$ ) may be calculated by the following formula:

$$SE(x-y) = \sqrt{[SE(x)]^2 + [SE(y)]^2}$$

**14** While this formula will only be exact for differences between separate and uncorrelated characteristics or subpopulations, it is expected to provide a good approximation for all differences likely to be of interest in this publication.

### T1 STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES

Size of estimates (persons)	STANDARD ERROR									RELATIVE STANDARD ERROR
	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.	
no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	%
100	90	100	180	160	160	110	110	130	80	80.0
200	160	170	260	220	220	140	150	160	140	70.0
300	220	230	310	260	260	170	170	180	190	63.3
500	330	320	390	320	340	210	210	220	270	54.0
700	420	400	460	370	390	240	240	240	350	50.0
1,000	530	500	540	420	460	280	280	270	440	44.0
1,500	690	630	650	500	550	330	330	310	580	38.7
2,000	820	750	740	570	620	370	370	350	700	35.0
2,500	950	850	800	600	700	400	400	400	800	32.0
3,000	1 050	950	900	650	750	450	450	400	900	30.0
3,500	1 150	1 000	950	700	800	450	450	450	1 000	28.6
4,000	1 250	1 100	1 000	750	850	500	500	450	1 050	26.3
5,000	1 400	1 200	1 100	850	900	550	550	500	1 200	24.0
7,000	1 650	1 400	1 300	950	1 050	600	600	550	1 450	20.7
10,000	1 950	1 700	1 500	1 100	1 200	700	700	650	1 750	17.5
15,000	2 350	2 000	1 800	1 300	1 450	800	800	750	2 150	14.3
20,000	2 700	2 250	2 050	1 450	1 600	900	900	850	2 450	12.3
30,000	3 150	2 650	2 450	1 700	1 850	1 050	1 050	1 000	2 950	9.8
40,000	3 500	2 900	2 750	1 900	2 100	1 200	1 150	1 100	3 350	8.4
50,000	3 800	3 150	3 000	2 100	2 250	1 300	1 250	1 250	3 700	7.4
100,000	4 750	4 000	4 000	2 750	2 900	1 700	1 600	1 650	4 850	4.9
150,000	5 350	4 600	4 750	3 250	3 350	1 950	1 800	2 000	5 600	3.7
200,000	5 900	5 150	5 300	3 650	3 750	2 150	..	2 300	6 250	3.1
300,000	6 900	6 100	6 250	4 300	4 300	2 500	..	2 750	7 250	2.4
500,000	8 550	7 700	7 650	5 250	5 050	3 050	..	..	8 800	1.8
1,000,000	11 950	10 800	10 050	6 850	6 350	..	..	..	11 550	1.2
2,000,000	17 600	15 650	13 100	9 000	7 800	..	..	..	15 250	0.8
5,000,000	31 550	26 900	18 450	..	..	..	..	..	23 400	0.5
10,000,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	40 950	0.4

.. not applicable

## TECHNICAL NOTE DATA QUALITY *continued*

### T2 LEVELS AT WHICH ESTIMATES HAVE RELATIVE STANDARD ERRORS OF 25% AND 50%(a)

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
25% RSE									
Mean duration of current period of insufficient work	13 700	12 300	8 300	5 800	6 300	2 900	3 600	1 100	14 300
Median duration of insufficient work	24 200	18 300	15 700	8 600	10 300	4 000	4 100	3 600	21 500
Mean preferred number of extra hours	3 900	3 500	3 100	2 000	2 900	1 000	700	500	3 000
All other estimates	6 200	4 700	4 100	2 500	2 900	1 200	1 200	1 100	4 600

### 50% RSE

Mean duration of current period of insufficient work	3 300	3 300	2 400	1 800	1 900	900	1 100	400	3 100
Median duration of insufficient work	6 800	5 200	4 600	2 600	3 200	1 300	1 300	1 200	5 100
Mean preferred number of extra hours	600	700	900	600	900	300	200	200	400
All other estimates	1 200	1 000	1 200	800	900	400	400	400	700

(a) Refers to the number of persons contributing to the estimate.

## GLOSSARY

<b>Centrelink</b>	A statutory authority responsible for delivering a range of Commonwealth government services, including registering persons for assistance in finding work and providing referrals to job placement agencies.
<b>Duration of insufficient work</b>	The duration of insufficient work is the length of time underemployed workers have been working less than 35 hours a week. As periods of insufficient work are recorded in full weeks and rounded down, this results in a slight understatement of duration.
<b>Employed persons</b>	Persons aged 15 and over who, during the reference week: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ worked for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind, in a job or business or on a farm (comprising employees, employers and own account workers)</li><li>■ worked for one hour or more without pay in a family business or on a farm (i.e. contributing family workers)</li><li>■ were employees who had a job but were not at work and were:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ away from work for less than four weeks up to the end of the reference week</li><li>■ away from work for more than four weeks up to the end of the reference week and received pay for some or all of the four-week period to the end of the reference week</li><li>■ away from work as a standard work or shift arrangement</li><li>■ on strike or locked out</li><li>■ on workers' compensation and expected to return to their job</li></ul></li><li>■ were employers or own account workers who had a job, business or farm, but were not at work.</li></ul>
<b>Full-time workers</b>	Full-time workers are employed persons who usually worked 35 hours or more a week (in all jobs) and those who, although usually worked less than 35 hours a week, worked 35 hours or more during the reference week.
<b>Fully employed workers</b>	Fully employed workers are employed persons who: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ worked full time during the reference week (including persons who usually work part time but worked full time in the reference week)</li><li>■ usually work full time but worked less than 35 hours in the reference week for non-economic reasons (such as illness or injury, leave holiday or flexitime, or personal reasons)</li><li>■ part-time workers who do not want to work additional hours.</li></ul>
<b>Labour force</b>	The civilian population can be split into two mutually exclusive groups: the labour force (employed and unemployed persons) and persons not in the labour force.
<b>Level of highest educational attainment</b>	Highest educational attainment identifies the highest achievement a person has attained in any area of study. It is defined as the highest educational attainment a person has achieved, and is not a measurement of relative importance of different fields of study. Higher levels of education are typically characterised by the greater significance of theoretical learning and greater complexity of factual and practical learning. It is derived from a person's highest year of school completed and level of highest non-school educational qualification. The highest qualification completed by the respondent is classified according to the <i>Australian Standard Classification of Education (ASCED)</i> (cat. no. 1272.0). See paragraphs 12 to 14 of the Explanatory Notes for further details on how highest educational attainment is determined.
<b>Looking for work with more hours</b>	Looked for work with more hours at some time during the four weeks up to the end of the reference week.
<b>Main English-speaking countries</b>	The main English-speaking countries are the United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada, South Africa, the United States of America and New Zealand.
<b>Mean duration of insufficient work</b>	The mean duration of insufficient work is obtained by dividing the aggregate number of weeks a group has had insufficient work by the number of persons in that group.

## **GLOSSARY** *continued*

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<b>Mean preferred number of extra hours</b>	The mean preferred number of extra hours is obtained by dividing the total preferred number of extra hours reported by a group by the number of persons in that group.
<b>Median duration of insufficient work</b>	The median duration of insufficient work is obtained by dividing underemployed workers into two equal groups, one comprising persons whose duration of insufficient work is above the median and the other, persons whose duration is below it.
<b>Part-time workers</b>	Employed persons who usually worked less than 35 hours a week (in all jobs) and either did so during the reference week, or were not at work during the reference week.
<b>Preferred number of extra hours</b>	The number of extra hours a week an underemployed worker would have preferred to work.
<b>Reference week</b>	The week before the survey.
<b>Status in employment</b>	Employed persons classified by whether they were employees, employers, own account workers, or contributing family workers.
<b>Underemployed workers</b>	Underemployed workers are employed persons who want, and are available for, more hours of work than they currently have. They comprise: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ part-time workers who want to work more hours and were available to start work with more hours, either in the reference week or in the four weeks subsequent to the survey</li><li>■ full-time workers who worked part-time hours in the reference week for economic reasons (such as being stood down or insufficient work being available). It is assumed that these people wanted to work full time in the reference week and would have been available to do so.</li></ul>
<b>Usual number of hours</b>	The number of hours usually worked in a week.



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